

## **Community Solar**

Have you been thinking about going solar but you rent, or you don't have a good site for installing panels (rooftop or ground-mount)? Community solar may work for you.

There are two main models that a particular array is based on:

-Most often, a number of residential customers and small businesses purchase solar panels in a large solar array much like a co-op or condo association. Each customer owns their own panels, but the management and maintenance of the solar project is handled on behalf of the group by the solar development company.

-The second model, less common, is where one can rent a share/shares of an array per month. This usually involves a long-term commitment with a penalty for early withdrawal.

Customers need to live in the same utility service territory that the solar array is built, but the community array need not be located near one's home.

There are three possibilities for Vermonters this year (only in the GMP territory): Solarize 2022 installer Catamount Solar is building an array that should have availability later this year, and the same is true of Norwich Solar. Wolfe Energy has already built an array that currently has availability for Vermonters. Unfortunately, we're not aware of community solar availability in New Hampshire this year.

### **These three companies project having availability in Vermont during 2022:**

**Catamount Solar:** Call Liz Smithies at (802) 728-3600. She'll take your name and she'll reach out when they're ready to involve people.

**Norwich Solar Technologies:** Call Suzanne Jones at (802) 281-3213. She'll request your GMP bill so that she can provide an estimate. If interested, you'll provide a \$1000 deposit, and you can apply for a loan. When construction begins, they'll need 70% of the membership amount (which depends how many shares/panels you're interested in), and when the system goes "online" (around two months later) they'll need the balance. More information [here](#).

**Wolfe Energy:** *Of these three options, this option needs the quickest action*, since their 150 kW array ([Peacham Community Solar](#) and [Peacham Community Solar FAQ](#)) is already 80% subscribed; there are only around 6 spots left. The pricing is \$100 per share reservation fee and then estimated \$2,750 per kW (per share) paid to the installer. More information: contact Dori Wolfe [dori.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:dori.wolfe@gmail.com)

Questions? contact Ariel Arwen (Hartland Energy Committee) [arielarwen@gmail.com](mailto:arielarwen@gmail.com), and/or your energy committee representatives.